

ABSTRACT

Phase I and II archaeological studies were carried out for the proposed Ogletown Interchange Project area. Background research revealed potential historic site locations dating from the mid-18th to mid-20th century within the project area and a series of potential prehistoric site locations. Phase I archaeological reconnaissance and testing encountered five prehistoric sites, with components dating to Archaic through Woodland II times and these sites are associated with poorly drained interior swamps and springhead areas. Seven historic sites were encountered and most, are agricultural farmsteads. Preliminary Phase II investigations were conducted on eight sites and additional Phase II research was recommended for two prehistoric sites and one historic site. The Dairy Queen Site and the Paradise Lane Site are Woodland I sites located on well-drained knolls adjacent to an interior springhead and an interior swamp, respectively. Preliminary testing at the Dairy Queen Site indicated an transiently occupied procurement site with a lower than expected range of lithic reduction activities. Although the site has been plow disturbed, intact deposits exist within a restricted but undefined area. The Paradise Lane Site was tentatively identified by preliminary Phase II investigations as a large procurement site or small base camp associated with hunter/gather groups utilizing Delaware Chalcedony Complex lithic materials. The site is undisturbed and has been well-preserved by extensive aeolian soil deposition. No features were located at either site during Phase I and preliminary Phase II investigations. Further Phase II research was also recommended at the John Ruth Inn Site to further investigate the integrity and extent of a mid-18th century trash feature located by the preliminary testing. The deposit could be associated with a tavern operated by Thomas Ogle as early as 1739. The deposit appears to have been relatively undisturbed by the 19th and 20th century occupation of the site area.

One historic site, the A. Temple Site, was considered to be eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The A. Temple Site is a tenant-occupied site dating from the mid-19th to mid-20th century and is considered significant because of the presence of a well-preserved foundation and main yard area, well-preserved archaeological remains of an agricultural outbuilding complex, and well-defined yard scatter and trash midden disposal areas.